

# Zantedeschia (Coloured Calla) Crop Timeline



Length of the total crop cycle including dormancy will depend on a range of factors and may take up to 48 weeks or longer

1-2 weeks Pre-germ.	8-10 weeks Plant & Grow		4-6 weeks Flowering	16 weeks Tuberisation		12-16 weeks minimum Dormancy & Tuber Storage
N-K ratio	3 to 1	2 to 1.5	1 to 1	1 to 1.5	1 to 3	Note this ratio is critical for optimum growth.
EC level	0.9 - 1.8					
pH	6.0 - 6.5					
Calcium	Add readily taken up product in low temperatures / dull conditions eg. <b>Bioman Calcium</b> (ex USA), <b>Calbit</b> (ex Italy) or a calcium chelate product					

Test pH / EC weekly and take at least 3 to 4 soil tests throughout the growing cycle to monitor soil nutrient levels

Addition of growth additives / promotors like seaweed products (eg. *Ascophyllum nodosum*) can also be beneficial

Recent research demonstrates that as nitrates reduce, there is a corresponding reduction in growth rates. Apply N in NO<sub>3</sub> form rather than NH<sub>4</sub>

**Caution: if liquid feeding, reduce fertiliser in latter half of tuberisation as irrigation is progressively withdrawn**

Plant & growing time will depend on greenhouse temperature & light, but will significantly lengthen in cooler & duller weather.

Zantedeschia (Coloured Calla) will have less flowers and reduced tuber multiplication in winter, low light conditions.

Supplementary lighting and heating may be an advantage in dull or winter conditions. Good greenhouse ventilation and airflow is essential at all times.

<b>Pregermination</b>	Pregerminate for 7-10 days @ 21-25°C and 85% humidity ( <b>very stable</b> ) in controlled temperature store until green shoots emerge at least 5-10mm.
<b>GA3 application</b>	Spray with <b>GA3</b> (100ppm - 1 tablet / 8-10 l) or <b>Promalin</b> ® (100ppm - 5ml / l) and <b>Previcur</b> ® (1.5ml / l). Dry tubers before planting
<b>Plant &amp; Grow</b>	Plant out & Grow. Test pH & EC weekly. Watch for disease/pests. Irrigate daily as required. Length of growing period will depend on climate
<b>Flower Harvest</b>	Approximately 4-6 weeks to complete flowering. Pull flowers; chill @ 6-8°C; grade & pulse @ ambient temperature (3 hours); chill & pack for market
<b>Tuberisation</b>	Continue to grow after flowering is completed for a minimum of 15-16 weeks to multiply the tuber. Reduce water towards end of cycle, monitor EC
<b>Lifting &amp; Curing</b>	Lift tubers at maturity; cure @ 25°C & reduce humidity to 65% (3-5 days); stabilise @ 15-20°C with good air flow (3-5 weeks); remove roots & grade
<b>Dormancy &amp; Storage</b>	Minimum of 12-16 weeks <b>from lifting</b> before planting again. Long term storage @ 8-10°C, 65-70% humidity, good air circulation

**Disclaimer:** This model is a general guide ONLY. There is no guarantee, stated or implied by BLOOMZ of actual crop performance or length of growing cycle. Actual performance depends on factors including: quality & size of tuber stock; tuber variety; crop density & nutrition; seasonality; crop environment (temperature, humidity & light levels); disease prevention; grower skill & management.

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